



JPW

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Morrisette et al.

Serial No.: 10/591,914

Art Unit: 1611

Docket No.: 21548YP

Filed: September 8, 2006

Examiner:
Sznaidman, Marcos L.

For: HIV INTEGRASE INHIBITORS

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed May 20, 2008, which set a one-month period for response that expires on June 20, 2008.

The status of the claims is as follows:

Original: 2-11
Currently amended: None
Previously presented: 1, 12-14 and 19
Canceled: 15-18
Withdrawn: None

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By Jode Hollis Date 06/16/08

Claims 1-14 and 19 are pending. The Office Action incorrectly states that claims 1-19 are pending. The claims were amended in a preliminary amendment filed September 8, 2006 as part of the national phase filing. A copy of the amendment and the post card showing receipt thereof by the Office is attached hereto.

The Examiner has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 and 372 to one of Groups I to III listed on page 2 of the Office Action. Since claims 15-18 have been canceled, Group II consists only of claims 13 and 14 and Group III is no longer pending. Of Groups I and II, Group I is elected with traverse. The Examiner has also required an election of species and identification of the claims encompassing the species. The compound of Example 18 is elected. All of the pending claims (i.e., claims 1-14 and 19) read on the elected species.